

Health News Release

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Kitsap County home care aid suspended for sexual misconduct charges

OLYMPIA — A Kitsap County home care aid was indefinitely suspended by state health officials after she was criminally charged with having sex with a client.

The indefinite suspension follows an immediate license suspension issued in April 2015 for Catherine Grace Erntson (HMCC.HM.60346813). The immediate action in April was based on criminal charges in Kitsap District Court. Erntson was criminally charged with indecent liberties, a Class B felony and sex offense. Erntson had sexual contact with a developmentally disabled adult while employed as a home care aid for the client.

The documents in this case can be seen online by clicking "Look up a health care provider" on the <u>Department of Health website</u>. Copies can be requested by calling 360-236-4700. That number can also be used to file complaints against health care providers in Washington.

The Department of Health protects and promotes public health, safety, and welfare in Washington by regulating the competency and quality of health care providers. The agency establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to people in Washington.

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